

**Fiscal Year 2001 Interior Appropriations Conference Report  
Analysis & Review**

**By the Numbers:**

*Budget Authority in Millions of Dollars*

	<u>FY '00</u>	<u>FY '01 Request</u>	<u>FY '01 House</u>	<u>FY '01 Conference Report</u>
Current Year:	14,912	16,320	14,959	18,768
Increases for Wildfire Control & Response:				<u>1,807</u>
Funding Excluding Increases for Wildfires:				16,961

**The Conference Report provides a \$3.856 billion or 25.9% increase in current year funding, \$2.448 billion or 15% more than the request, \$3.809 billion or 25.5% more than the House passed bill, and \$2.996 billion or 19% more than the Senate passed bill.**

If you exclude the increases provided for fighting wildfires and restoration of habitat and facilities damaged by fire, the Conference Report provides a \$2.049 billion or 13.7% increase in current year funding.

The bill includes \$5 billion for public debt reduction (note: the debt reduction allocation is not reflected in the figures above).

**LANDS LEGACY TITLE:**

The bill includes a new Lands Legacy Program which provides \$686 million in FY 2001 for the following activities:

- \$179 million for federal land acquisition
- \$50 million for State Assistance
- \$20 million for the Forest Service inventory and monitoring
- \$78 million for the Cooperative Endangered Species Fund
- \$20 million for the North American Wetlands Conservation Fund
- \$20 million for the US Geological Survey
- \$30 million for the Forest Legacy Program
- \$50 million for State Wildlife Grants
- \$20 million for the Urban Park and Recreation Fund
- \$15 million for the Historic Preservation Fund

\$4 million for Urban and Community Forestry Programs

\$50 million for Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT)

\$150 million for federal maintenance backlog

The bill walls off \$12 billion in discretionary funds over six years for eligible programs, which includes those listed above as well as Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery, NOAA Operations, and several other coastal programs. The \$12 billion will be walled off through the budget resolution over and above the regular discretionary allocation. Each year the funds are divided into six subcategories. If the Appropriations Committee fails to fully fund a subcategory one year, then the remaining funds are available for appropriation the next year. The bill does not contain any state funding formula, earmarks, or entitlements. Nor does the bill contain any changes to current law relative to program authorizations or property rights protection.

SUBCATEGORY	ANNUAL ALLOCATION
LWCF	\$540 million
State & Other Conservation	\$300 million
Urban & Historic Preservation	\$160 million
PILT	\$50 million
Maintenance Backlog	\$150 million
Coastal Assistance	\$440 million in FY '02 rising to \$600 million in FY '06

**The Land Legacy proposal guarantees \$540 million for land acquisition annually for FY '02 through FY '06, funding above that amount would not count towards the fulfillment of the funding levels required for other subcategories.**

#### **FUNDING OF NOTE:**

**NEA:** The bill provides a total of \$105 million for the NEA, an increase of \$7 million. \$98 million is provided under the regular NEA account and an additional \$7 million is provided under a separate heading for rural arts grants.

**NEH:** The bill provides an increase of \$5 million for a total of \$120.3 million.

**Partnership for the Next Generation Vehicle (PNGV):** The Conferees provide \$126.5 million for PNGV. The House adopted the Sununu Amendment eliminating PNGV funding.

**Land Acquisition:** In addition to the funds provided under Land Legacy, the major federal land acquisition accounts (BLM, USFWS, NPS, and USFS) total \$266.1 million, an increase of \$20.6 million from last year's level.

**Park Service Operations:** \$1,292.2 million, an increase of \$39.5 million over last year.

**PILT:** In addition to the funds provided under Land Legacy, the bill provides a \$15.6 million increase for a total of \$150 million.

**Northeast Home Heating Oil Reserve:** The bill provides \$8 million for the establishment of a Northeast Home Heating Oil Reserve.

*In Thousand of Dollars*

	FY 2000	Conference Report	Percent Increase
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BLM	\$1,231,402	\$1,672,673	35.8%
USF&WS	\$875,093	\$964,071	10.2%
National Park Service	\$1,803,847	\$1,937,612	7.4%
Bureau of Indian Affairs	\$1,869,052	\$2,141,130	14.6%
Departmental Offices	\$319,869	\$325,608	1.8%
<i>Dept. of Interior Total</i>	<i>\$7,320,690</i>	<i>\$8,358,782</i>	<i>14.2%</i>
Forest Service	\$2,819,933	\$3,612,361	28.1%
Dept. of Energy	\$1,226,393	\$1,456,868	18.8%
Smithsonian	\$438,130	\$454,855	3.8%

### **GENERAL PROVISIONS OF NOTE:**

The bill includes numerous authorizing provisions including the following:

**CABIN USER FEE:** The bill establishes a new user fee calculation for cabins located on forest land calculated. Fees will be set at 5% of market value.

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON FOREST COUNTIES PAYMENTS:** The bill establishes a new advisory committee to make recommendations regarding payments to counties and local schools from forest receipts.

**TRIBAL SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM:** The bill directs the Secretary of Interior to carry out a demonstration program to provide grants to Indian tribes for the construction of tribally controlled schools.

**ADVISORY GROUP TO THE DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL ENERGY TECHNOLOGY:**

The bill establishes a new advisory group for the Director.

**ABRAHAM LINCOLN INTERPRETIVE CENTER:** The bill authorizes a \$50 million grant. The bill does not contain the competitive bidding requirements sought by Senator Fitzgerald and opposed by Speaker Hastert.

**U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE FORENSIC FEE:** The bill establishes a fee for forensic laboratory services provided by the USF&WS to non-Department of the Interior entities.

**FIRST LADIES NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE:** The bill creates the historic site in Canton, Ohio and authorizes federal assistance.

**PALACE OF THE GOVERNORS ANNEX:** The bill authorizes \$15 million for a 50% federal match for construction of the annex in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

**NATIONAL UNDERGROUND RAILROAD FREEDOM CENTER:** The bill authorizes \$16 million for the Center in Ohio as well as amending current law to authorize assistance for other historic sites related to the underground railroad.

**WHEELING NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA:** The establishes and authorizes \$10 million for this new heritage area in West Virginia.

**WHITE RIVER OIL SHALE MINE:** The bill requires the sale of this mine in Utah.

**VALLES CALDERA:** The bill appropriates \$990,000 for implementing the Valles Caldera Preservation Act and amends the Act to permit compensation for members of the Board of Trustees. The Preservation Act was just enacted this year.

**ENERGY SAVINGS CONTRACT:** The bill changes from \$750,000 to \$10 million the cancellation ceiling permitted in energy savings contracts entered into by federal agencies without notification to the appropriate Congressional Committees.

**FIBEROPTIC FEE SCHEDULE:** The bill includes a provision prohibiting the implementation of a fee schedule for use of right-of-way on federal lands for fiber optics that is different than the fee schedule for linear right-of-way.

**LIMITATION ON COMPETITIVE BIDDING:** The bill authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to limit competition for contracts for fire and fuel treatment and watershed restoration in the Sequoia National Monument and Sequoia National Forest and to provide preference for employment to certain dislocated workers.

**COLUMBIA BASIN:** None of the funds under the Act may be used to implement the Columbia Basin Ecosystem Management Project until the Secretaries of Interior and Agriculture provide specific information to Congress.

**KYOTO PROTOCOL:** None of the funds under the Act may be used to implement the Kyoto Protocol.

**AMERICAN HERITAGE RIVERS:** None of the funds under the Act may be used for personnel, training, or administrative activities for the American Heritage River program.

**ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT:** Designates Anchorage, Alaska as a port of entry under the Endangered Species Act.

**PENNSYLVANIA HERITAGE PRESERVATION COMMISSION:** Authorizes \$3 million a year through 2010 for the commission.

#### **EARMARKS:**

City of Craig, Alaska — \$5 million

Federal Employee Joyce Liverca — \$4,449 for reimbursement of expenses

Natural Communities Conservation Planning in California — \$2 million

Close-Up Foundation — sufficient funding

Alaska Pacific University — \$300,000

Transfer of 50 acres of land in Alaska at no cost to Harvey R. Redmond

United Mine Workers of America Combined Benefits Fund — \$58 million

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*The views expressed in this Policy Brief do not necessarily reflect the views of  
all Members of the Conservative Action Team.*

The Conservative Action Team is a Congressional Member Organization of  
almost 60 House Members and is chaired by Representative John Shadegg (R-AZ).